CLEVELAND 6, OHIO

RESEARCH DIVISION

September 30, 1964

Dr. Joshua Lederberg Genetics Dept., School of Medicine Stanford University Palo Alto, Calif.

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

The provision of continuous and adequate discussion of the problems of medicine, and especially their relationship to government, has caused us all concern. The National Academy of Science has done a fine job for those that concern science. But it has never had a medical section even though many of its interests have been tangential.

The need for a comparable, but rather more broadly based, national academy of medicine, is described in the enclosed editorial. It is interesting that the engineers plan such a new academy and one for the humanities was proposed in SCIENCE recently.

I am writing you as a person of wisdom to give me your views on whether such an academy would serve an essential purpose and suggestions as to how you believe it might be organized. Since the appearance of the editorial there has been widespread interest. Most correspondents seem to approve; a minority do not. Is such an organization in the best interest of medicine or not? Give the problem your earnest consideration.

Cordially,

Irvine H. Page, M. D.